



GOOD SHEPHERD

CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

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PARISH OFFICE

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Web www.goodshepherdgv.org
Hours Monday to Thursday: 8am to 4pm
Fridays: 8am to 12pm

PARISH STAFF

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» ext. 853
» joshwang@goodshepherdgv.org

SCHOOL

Phone (763) 545-4285
Stevi Evans, Principal
» ext. 811 » stevieevans@gsgvschool.org

SACRAMENTS

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES TO OUR SCHEDULE

Weekend Mass Schedule:
» Saturday: 5:00 p.m.
» Sunday: 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

Weekday Mass Schedule:
» Tuesday to Friday: 7:30 a.m.
» Saturday: 8:00 a.m. (*ad orientem*)

Eucharistic Adoration (in the church):
» Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday:
8:15 to 9:15 a.m.
» Saturday: 8:45 to 10:00 a.m.

Confession:
» Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday:
8:15 to 9:15 a.m.
» Saturday: 8:45 to 10:00 a.m.
» By appointment: Please call the pastor

Baptisms & Weddings
» Please call the parish office

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Tuesday, May 4

7:30 a.m. + Mass
8:15 to 9:15 a.m. + Confessions & Adoration

Wednesday, May 5

7:30 a.m. + Mass
8:15 to 9:15 a.m. + Confessions & Adoration
7:00 p.m. + Family Faith Formation Night

Thursday, May 6

7:30 a.m. + Mass

Friday, May 7

7:30 a.m. + Mass
8:15 to 9:15 a.m. + Confessions & Adoration
7:00 p.m. + First Friday Night of Prayer

Saturday, May 8

8:00 a.m. + Mass
No Saturday Morning Confessions or Adoration due to the Ordination of Deacons on this morning.
5:00 p.m. + Mass

Sunday, May 9

7:30 a.m. + Mass
8:30 a.m. + Mass
10:30 a.m. + Mass

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation continues to be suspended as long as the pandemic continues. This means that you are not presently obligated to attend Mass. All COVID-19 positive persons, those who are symptomatic, and those living with them, must stay home. Persons over age 65 and those with preexisting health conditions should continue to stay home and avoid public gatherings, including in church.

MASSES DURING TIME OF PANDEMIC

Face masks are REQUIRED for all those who come for Mass, Confession, and Adoration, with the exception of children under the age of five. Use your mask properly, COVERING BOTH YOUR MOUTH AND YOUR NOSE. The obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation continues to be suspended as long as the pandemic continues.

Collect for the Fifth Sunday of Easter

Almighty ever-living God,
constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us,
that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism
may, under your protective care, bear much fruit
and come to the joys of life eternal.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

BISHOP ANDREW COZZENS: HOMILY FROM GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

I am incredibly grateful for a beautiful Good Shepherd Weekend. I was especially moved by your generosity in covering all 40 hours of Eucharistic Adoration, the number of you who joined in praying the Liturgy of the Hours throughout the weekend, your sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving at our many Masses, and your efforts to spend time with one another in fellowship — even lousy weather couldn't stop us from rejoicing in the blessing we have received in our parish and school.

The Good Shepherd staff, our Knights of Columbus, and the Good Shepherd Mens Club deserve special thanks for making the weekend happen, as do our many lay ecclesial ministers — our readers and servers and ushers.

One great blessing from this weekend was having Bishop Andrew Cozzens present to preside and preach on Sunday morning. Here is a transcript of his homily, which is worth reading and bringing to prayer.

Perhaps it's the experience of living through this long pandemic. Or perhaps it's the situation in the Twin Cities and all of the racial tensions and violence we've experienced. Or maybe it's the general state of the world and the struggles of unstable governments and the religious persecutions happening around the world. Or maybe it's just that I'm tired of all of these things together. But sometimes, I find myself saying, "Lord, why is the world such a mess? Why don't you come down and fix it all? Why don't you come and end it all — bring us all home? Why are you allowing all these things?"

And then, of course, I look into my own heart and I find that often enough, things are a mess there, too. I know many people who after this year of the pandemic find themselves struggling with stress and even depression, broken relationships, strained family relationships, various kinds of personal wounds and insecurities which tend to come up when there are external stresses, and many personal and financial struggles. Again, so *much suffering*. And then the older you get, you start to think, "This is actually often the experience of human life."

Why does the Lord allow it? Why does the Lord allow it to be this way? And you understand why there is that theme that goes throughout all of the Scriptures — that this life is an exile. That we're living in exile from the Promised Land. And that we shouldn't actually look for everything to be okay in exile. It's not supposed to be okay. And part of living in exile is to make us long for the Promised Land, like the people who traveled for 40 years in the desert, longing for the Promised Land. And you think of things like Saint Paul and that powerful line — 1 Corinthians 15:19 — it's probably the most quoted chapter in Easter because he speaks so clearly about the Resurrection there. And he says, "If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are the most pitiable people of all." If for this life only — if we're looking for everything to be okay simply in this life — then we're the most pitiable people of all. Because nothing will ever be completely okay in this life.

And into this existential reality — which is the reality we always live but is perhaps made more clear by the past year — into this existential reality, the Lord says, "Have no fear. Don't worry. I'm your Good Shepherd and I have come to lead you

to green pastures, to protect you, even to offer you eternal life." You see, it may be that we have to live our lives in a sad exile, but we don't live them alone. We have a Good Shepherd who comes to accompany us every step of the way.

This image of the shepherd is not as apparent to us as it was to those in the time of Jesus, unless you have the experience, like I did, of spending some time on a farm when I was a kid. In fact, I was allergic to cow's milk for a period of my life, and so I had to drink goat's milk. So I actually had to go and milk a goat every day. So I have a little experience of what it means to be a shepherd, except the goat and I did not have a friendly relationship.

But I remember hearing a story from a priest friend of mine who was visiting the Holy Land, and he had an opportunity to go for a walk outside of Bethlehem with a Palestinian man. And they came across a shepherd with his sheep. And this priest friend of mine, who was a seminarian at the time, said to his Palestinian friend, "Wow, this is such a powerful thing for me to see, because Jesus said he was the Good Shepherd." The Palestinian man he was with was a Muslim, not a Christian. He said, "Jesus said that he was the Good Shepherd, so to actually see a shepherd with his sheep is a powerful thing." And the Muslim man said, "Well, let's go talk to the shepherd." So, they went over, and the Muslim man translated to Arabic for my friend, and they had a conversation. And he said, "It's such a powerful thing to see you as a shepherd, and Jesus said he was the Good Shepherd, and he said 'My sheep hear my voice and they know me and they follow me.'" And the shepherd said, "Well, it's true." He said to my friend, "Call the sheep." And my friend said, "Here sheep. Come here sheep." And the sheep were grazing, they looked up, and they went back to grazing. And then the shepherd said one word in his native tongue, and all the sheep lined up in a single file line behind him. Because they know their shepherd. And why do they obey his voice? Because he keeps them safe. Because they know he loves them. Because they know he's going to lead them beside still waters. He's going to lead them to green pastures. And they know that if they're lost, he'll come find them. That's the way a good shepherd is. And this is the image that Jesus wants to speak to us in the midst of all our struggles.

Brothers and sisters, when you really think about it, it's incredibly good news that God is for us. He's for us. He comes for us. He desires to find us wherever we are. And he desires to bless us and to draw us close to him. He doesn't wait for us to prove ourselves to him. He doesn't shun us when we wander away from him. He doesn't leave us to fend for ourselves. He's for us. And he proved that. What better way could he have proved it than as our Good Shepherd to lay down his life? To free us so that we could have our sins forgiven and come to eternal life.

Now I know that this is sometimes hard to believe. It takes faith to believe that God is for us and that he cares for us and that he's with us. Especially when we are in the midst of difficulty or struggle.

Continued on the bulletin flap

WELCOME!

We extend a gracious welcome to the new parishioners who joined Good Shepherd in the month of April:

Luke Hoffman and Anna Klinkner

Ian and Hillary Ross
and children **George & Ella**

Kyle and Amanda Brassler
and children **Gavin & Grace**

Collin and Hilary Mayer & daughter Sylvia

We welcome those newly baptized in April into the communion of the Church:

Abigail Christina Haroldson
Child of Jordan & Brittany Haroldson

PRAY THE ROSARY

During the month of May, preceding the 7:30 a.m. Mass on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, the communal Rosary will be prayed. The prayers will begin at 7:10 a.m. and will end in time for the Mass. Join with us as we honor our Blessed Mother during May.

PRISM RENTAL ASSISTANCE

PRISM received a significant grant from Hennepin County to assist people who need rental assistance and live in Hennepin county. If you or someone you know could use this help, please call the PRISM assistance hotline at 763-432-4217.

PRISM FOOD DRIVE

The **May PRISM Food Drive** is scheduled for the weekend of **May 22/23**. Our items for **May** are: Mac and Cheese, Breakfast Cereal, and Kid-Friendly Snacks.

GOOD SHEPHERD MEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM

Men of Good Shepherd: If you are searching for an opportunity for quality fellowship and recreation, consider joining the Good Shepherd men's softball team! We get together on Monday nights throughout the months of June, July, and August for some friendly competition against other area parishes. The team is open to all men ages 28 and up. If you are interested, contact Kyle Sack for more information. Email: kyle.sack@gmail.com.

ARCHDIOCESAN MARRIAGE DAY

Saturday, June 5, 10 a.m., Cathedral of Saint Paul

This celebration includes Mass, renewal of vows, and a short reception. Couples celebrating their silver and golden anniversaries will be honored in a special way. Families and friends of all couples are welcome! In-Person Registration is required by contacting 651.291.4488. Social Distancing will be observed. Couples married one year or more may request a commemorative certificate signed by Archbishop Hebda. To request a certificate, please contact the Office of Marriage, Family & Life by May 30 at 651.291.4488 or mfl@archspm.org.

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

Prayer Chain.....	612.599.5739
PRISM	763.529.1350
Southwest Options for Women	
Pregnant? Need Help?	952.938.4496
Befrienders	763.544.0416
Archdiocese's Victim Assistance Program.....	651.291.4497

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sun. 5/2	8:30 am	All Parishioners
	10:30 am	† Anna Thorp
Tues. 5/4	7:30 am	† Bill Jewett
Wed. 5/5	7:30 am	† Marie Nelson
Thurs. 5/6	7:30 am	† Kenneth Schramel
Fri. 5/7	7:30 am	† Jim Bruynell
Sat. 5/8	5:00 pm	† Earl Witcraft
	8:30 am	† Audrey Jewett
Sun. 5/9	10:30 am	All Parishioners

CRIB DONATIONS

During the month of **May**, a crib is placed in our gathering space to fill with donated baby items for **Southwest Options for Women**. Please remember these babies when you are shopping. *The answer to a crisis pregnancy is to eliminate the crisis, not the baby.*

MOTHER'S DAY ROSE SALE

The **Respect Life Committee** will be selling beautiful long stemmed roses (\$2 each) after the Masses **Mother's Day Weekend (May 8-9)**. So plan to honor your mom, wife, grandma, sister, daughter, or yourself with the gift of a gorgeous rose or multiple flowers because it is a good way to raise money for a great cause!

Proceeds will benefit Southwest Options for Women Pregnancy Resource Center, Birthright of Minneapolis, PROLIFE Across AMERICA and Robbinsdale Women's Clinic.

SOUTHWEST OPTIONS FOR WOMEN - NEW CENTER DEDICATION

Saturday, May 8, 1-4 p.m. at Southwest Options for Women, 574 Prairie Center Drive STE 130, Eden Prairie, MN 55344
Please join us in celebrating 30 years of helping women with unplanned pregnancies in our community. Our new center is conveniently located near Eden Prairie Mall and shares a parking lot with Planned Parenthood. Women in need are just steps away. Stop by and tour our new space, learn about our new programs and how we plan to help even more women. Hosted by Eden Prairie Mayor and blessing of the center by Bishop Andrew Cozzens at 2:30 p.m.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 2, 2021

Sunday:	Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8
Monday:	1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Jn 14:6-14
Tuesday:	Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday:	Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8
Thursday:	Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 [3]/Jn 15:9-11
Friday:	Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17
Saturday:	Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21
Next Sunday:	Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

It can be hard to see. And it's why we need to be reminded so frequently of the truth. Because we can through faith access him. We can receive him in the sacraments. And we can experience the power of his Holy Spirit which comes into the most difficult places and brings peace and light and hope – if in faith we will open our hearts to him and we can trust that he's for us because he's our Good Shepherd.

Especially in difficult moments, there's one Scripture passage that I always repeat to myself. And I always say everybody should have this Scripture passage memorized. I used to not write it down because I had it memorized, but then once I said in a homily that everyone should have it memorized and then I couldn't remember it. ... And so now I always write it down, even though I do have it memorized: "We know that all things work for good for those who love God and are called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28). "We know that all things work for good for those who love God and are called according to his purpose." Really, Lord, all things? Even the past year of pandemic? Even when I lose my job? Even when I go through some great struggle? All things can work for good?

My brothers and sisters, this is the power of our Good Shepherd. Our Good Shepherd is the one who is so good that he brings good out of evil. And whatever happens in life, he is capable of turning into a good, if we will come to him, if we will surrender our lives to him, if we will seek him and listen to his voice. Then, whatever struggle we find ourselves in, he will be present there, and he will lead us to green pastures and still waters.

Of course, one of the keys to being able to follow the Good Shepherd is to learn to listen to his voice. And this is something that we have to apply effort to. We listen to many, many voices in the world today. Just think how many hours a day you spend listening to voices – radio, television, podcasts. How many hours a day do you spend listening to the voice of your Good Shepherd? Do you spend any time in a day where you silence all other voices and you sit down in a quiet spot, or you come and stop in a church, or you find a place where you can be in silence and you open God's word? And you let the voice of the Good Shepherd speak to the lies that are put in our head by our culture, and the lies that are put in our head by our own shame and guilt, and the lies that come from our own past experience which don't tell the full truth? But you allow the voice of the Good Shepherd to speak his truth to the center of your heart?

That's the key to knowing he's with me and to experiencing what the Good Shepherd wants to give me. Because as Jesus himself said, his kingdom is not of this world. If he wanted to end all suffering in this world, he would have done it a long time ago. If he wanted to conquer and establish an earthly kingdom, he would have done it when he was on earth. Where is the kingdom of God? Within you. And within me. And there in my heart, if I become a person of prayer, I can learn to hear the voice of the Good Shepherd, and then I can experience still waters and green pastures, even in the midst of difficulty and struggle. How important it is that we learn to become persons of prayer. ... That's the key to receiving the voice of the Good Shepherd. And when I hear his voice, it stills everything else. And then, even in the midst of difficulty and struggle, it allows him to lead me to green pastures and still waters.



GOOD SHEPHERD

CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

For Earth Day, the second graders read a story about the benefits in our community of planting trees. After they read the story, they learned about Wangari Mathai, an activist who fought to preserve natural resources and went on to plant more than 40 million trees! They had fun drawing trees for art after the lesson.



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